

## REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Preliminary Amendment-A the claims in the application are claims 1-14, of which claims 1, 4 and 5 are independent.

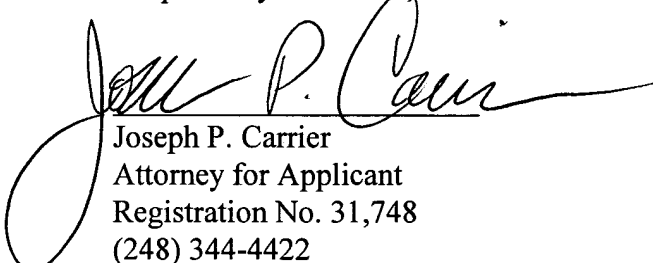
The specification, claims and abstract have been amended to overcome minor informalities and inconsistencies therein, the claims are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies, and new claims 10-14 are added which present features corresponding to those in original claims 6-9.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the above amendments are fully supported by the original application. Applicant also respectfully submits that the above amendments do not introduce any new matter into the application.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

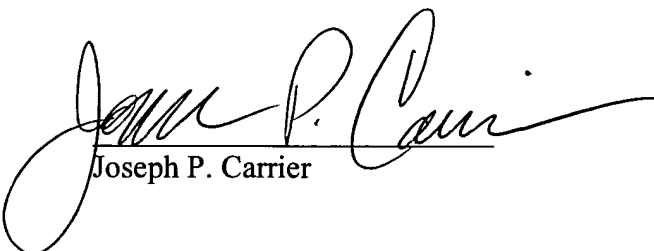
Respectfully submitted,

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## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail Certificate No. ET986049541US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 16, 2004.

  
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